California Education and the Environment Initiative









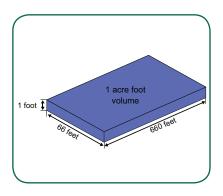
Our Water: Sources and Uses

Dictionary



acre-foot

A measurement unit for water that equals an area nearly the size of a football field covered with one foot (30.48 centimeters) of water (1233 cubic meters).



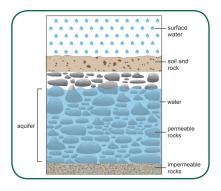
agriculture

The practice of growing crops and raising animals for food, fiber, or other uses by humans.



aquifer

An underground layer of rock or sediment that holds usable amounts of groundwater.







consequence

The result of an action or a decision.



conserve

To use a resource in such a way that it is not wasted, lost, or damaged.



crop

A type of plant, or the seasonal production of plants, grown by humans for food, animal feed, or fiber.



drought

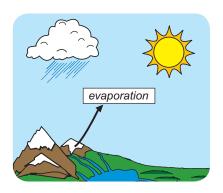
A long period of time with little or no precipitation.



E

evaporation

The process by which a liquid changes to a gas.



F

filter

(verb) To pass a substance through a material, such as screen or fabric, to remove particles or other substances.





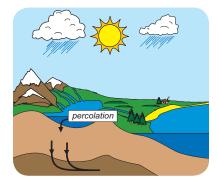
fresh water

Water in rivers, lakes, and other freshwater ecosystems and that contains little dissolved salt.



non-potable

Water that is not safe to drink according to public health standards.



percolation

The movement of water into the ground through soil, sand, and gravel.



pollutant

A waste produced by human activity that contaminates the environment.



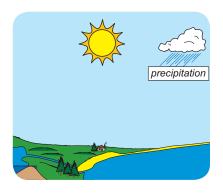
potable

Water that is safe to drink according to public health standards.



precipitation

Water that falls from clouds to Earth as rain, mist, hail, sleet, ice, or snow.







reservoir

A lake or other storage area where water is collected and kept for future use.



runoff

Water that flows over the ground and into streams and rivers.



settling

The sinking of heavier particles to the bottom of a liquid.

storage

(noun) The place where something is kept.





wastewater

Used water from homes, businesses, and industries.



watershed

The land area that drains water into a particular body of water, such as a stream, river, lake, or ocean.



Unit Title: Our Water: Sources and Uses

Grade: 5

Science Standard 5.3.d.

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